



Rob Wilcox &lt;rob.wilcox@lacity.org&gt;

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**question about LAMC 41.18**

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Hall, Carla <Carla.Hall@latimes.com>  
To: Rob Wilcox <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>

Tue, Aug 30, 2016 at 8:13 PM

Hi, Rob,

**I was just re-reading the code and it says:**

No person shall stand in or upon any street, sidewalk or other public way open for pedestrian travel or otherwise occupy any portion thereof in such a manner *as to annoy or molest any pedestrian thereon or so as to obstruct or unreasonably interfere with the free passage of pedestrians.* (Amended by Ord. No. 137,269, Eff. 10/21/68.)

Whether or not a defendant's acts "in any manner hindered or obstructed the free-passage" of persons passing is clearly a question of fact for the jury. *People v. Firestone*, CR A 518.

**That makes it sound like you *could* be legally sitting or standing or even sleeping on a part of the public sidewalk during the day (so I'm not talking about Jones settlement hours) as long as you don't interfere with other people. I always thought it was no sitting or standing at all. (And I know you can't block entrances.)**

**I'm doing (maybe) an editorial on the Venice Beach BID that some people are trying to form. Legally, do BID private security personnel have the right to make a person move along off a *public* sidewalk? Isn't it only a police officer, enforcing 41.18, who can do make a person obey the ordinance?**

**Thanks!**

**Carla**

LA Times editorial writer

office: 213-237-6058

cell: 310-497-9942



Rob Wilcox <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>

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## question about LAMC 41.18

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**Rob Wilcox** <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>  
To: "Hall, Carla" <Carla.Hall@latimes.com>

Wed, Aug 31, 2016 at 2:36 PM

Hi Carla:

I'm trying to find out from our folks. Will let you know what I find.

Rob

Rob Wilcox  
Director, Community Engagement and Outreach  
Office of Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer  
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Rob Wilcox &lt;rob.wilcox@lacity.org&gt;

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**question about LAMC 41.18**

Hall, Carla <Carla.Hall@latimes.com>  
To: Rob Wilcox <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>

Wed, Aug 31, 2016 at 2:51 PM

Thanks, Rob!

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**From:** Rob Wilcox [mailto:rob.wilcox@lacity.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** Hall, Carla  
**Subject:** Re: question about LAMC 41.18

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**question about LAMC 41.18**

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Hall, Carla <Carla.Hall@latimes.com>  
To: Rob Wilcox <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 1, 2016 at 10:15 AM

Hi, Rob,

I'm writing this Venice BID editorial for tomorrow. So let me know if you found out even partial answers to my questions. Meanwhile one more—panhandling in LA on *public* property is NOT illegal, right? It's only aggressive panhandling that is illegal, right? (I will try right now to find the answer to that question. I think it's more straightforward.)

Thanks!

Carla

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**From:** Rob Wilcox [mailto:rob.wilcox@lacity.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 31, 2016 2:37 PM  
**To:** Hall, Carla  
**Subject:** Re: question about LAMC 41.18

Hi Carla:

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Rob Wilcox <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>

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## question about LAMC 41.18

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Hall, Carla <Carla.Hall@latimes.com>  
To: Rob Wilcox <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 1, 2016 at 11:01 AM

Thanks!

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**From:** Rob Wilcox [mailto:rob.wilcox@lacity.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 01, 2016 10:56 AM

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Rob Wilcox &lt;rob.wilcox@lacity.org&gt;

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## question about LAMC 41.18

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**Rob Wilcox** <rob.wilcox@lacity.org>  
To: "Hall, Carla" <Carla.Hall@latimes.com>

Thu, Sep 1, 2016 at 12:50 PM

Carla:

Sorry for the wait.

**LAMC 41.18 (d) No person shall sit, lie or sleep in or upon any street, sidewalk or other public way.** Your interpretation is correct.

Only peace officers or authorized city employees could enforce that section of the ordinance. BID employees would not be able to enforce.

Hope this helps.

Rob

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